

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, while the world watches, the events of peace unfold in the Balkans, the violence of a land war raging in Africa between the nations of Eritrea and Ethiopia. As a family doctor who worked in refugee camps in Sudan in 1985 and cared for refugees from both great nations, I can only feel sadness as massive military confrontation continues with large numbers of casualties on both sides.

Since this war began a year ago, I have asked a number of wise people to share with me the causes of this war. But, frankly, it appears to be a war that serves no purpose and seems to offer no hope but only destruction for the two countries. I commend the OAU for their continued efforts to find peace, but ultimately the decision to stop warring comes down to individual decisions by each great nation, Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Mr. Speaker, it is the hope of the world, at least of those that are watching, that these decisions are made soon.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS) at 10 a.m.

#### PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Craig Barnes, Senior Pastor, National Presbyterian Church, Washington D.C., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

O God, we ask that You would be gracious to the leadership of our land this day. Give them the wisdom of Your spirit that they may find their way through the complex issues we now confront. Give them the courage to hold to what they believe to be right, and the humility to discover more truth than they have.

But most of all, O God, we pray that You will give these leaders Your own great dreams for the future of our people, that we may participate in the kingdom You would build here.

All this we ask in the name of the Lord, whose way we prepare. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DUNCAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 322. An Act to amend title 4, United States Code, to add the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR ON TODAY

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. CRAIG BARNES OF NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(Mr. NETHERCUTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to welcome to the House today Dr. Craig Barnes, the pastor of National Presbyterian Church, a church with a long and grand history in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Barnes is not only a friend but serves as the pastor for me and my family here in the Nation's Capital.

For those of us who come to Congress to serve for a time, to be able to find a church home away from home is indeed a blessing. In his worship commitment Craig Barnes brings to all who have the opportunity to hear him, or read his books, by the way, not only a thoughtful and wonderful message of faith but true belief in the grace of God. He has a unique way of clearing the fog away from confusion, despair and uncertainty that sometimes touches all of us in life and preach a message of hope as he ministers to those in need.

Mr. Speaker, I am especially delighted that Dr. Barnes is here today and grateful that he would address the House.

#### KHATAMI HAS THE WHITE HOUSE BUFFALOED

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Khatami regime in Iran has arrested 13 Iranian Jews. They were accused of spying for Israel and the United States of America. The regime is supposedly seeking the death penalty.

Unbelievable, Mr. Speaker. The White House supports Khatami; the State Department supports Khatami; in fact, the White House said, and I quote: "Khatami is a welcome voice of moderation."

Moderation, my ascot.

Beam me up.

Khatami is a brutal killer, a fanatic, a bold-faced liar.

It is time to recognize the Resistance, the National Council of Resistance in Iran, fighting for democracy, and it is time to set the record straight. Khatami has the White House buffaloed. He should not buffalo this Congress.

#### CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO ROSA PARKS, A TRUE AMERICAN LEGEND

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today Congress will honor a true American legend with the Congressional Gold Medal. Many refer to Rosa Parks as the First Lady of Civil Rights and the Mother of the Freedom Movement because she refused to yield her bus seat in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955 and was arrested. That silent protest by Parks, who is now 86 years old, set in motion a year-long bus boycott by African Americans and a rethinking and elimination of Alabama's segregation law.

On November 13, 1956, the Supreme Court ruled that the law in Alabama was unconstitutional; and the buses were desegregated. As an original cosponsor of the legislation awarding the Gold Medal to Mrs. Parks, I feel that this is a distinct honor and privilege to participate in the process to bestow one of the Nation's highest tributes upon this courageous lady. Her contribution to the Freedom Movement helped pave the way for civil rights and equal treatment in America.

To Mrs. Parks:

I salute you and the significant contributions you have made to this great country. Thank you.

#### REPUBLICANS PUT NRA-BACKED POLITICS ABOVE OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, Republicans need to decide who is more important to them, our children or their politics. Because if they want to play politics with the issue of gun safety, they should explain why to the parents of Sean Harvey of West Paterson